

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 08953 281340Z

41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS CARACAS 8953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EAIR, VE

SUBJ: IMPORT DUTIES FOR AIRCRAFT

REF: CARACAS 8728

1. BY JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE MINISTRIES OF FINANCE, DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS, A DUTY EXONERATION TABLE WAS ESTABLISHED ACCORDING TO WHICH THE FULL 70 PERCENT AD VALOREM DUTY WILL NOT BE APPLIED TO THE FOLLOWING TYPES AND FOR THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS OF AIRCRAFT. THE DUTY IS REPLACED BY AN EXONERATION LIMIT AS FOLLOWS:

(A) CROP DUSTERS, AEROPHOTOGRAMMETRY AIRCRAFT, INSTRUCTION, TECHNICAL OR SCIENTIFIC AIRCRAFT, AMBULANCES, AIRLINERS AND AIR TAXIS, AIRCRAFT BELONGING TO AERONAUTICAL INSTITUTIONS- 1 PERCENT AD VALOREM.

(B) AIRCRAFT NOT CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE LIST, IMPORTED FOR STRICTLY PRIVATE USE, APY DUTIES ACCORDING TO THEIR MAXIMUM TAKE-OFF WEIGHT:

0-1,818 KILOGRAMS 1 PERCENT

1,181-2,727 KILOGRAMS 2 PERCENT

2,728-3,636 " 5 PERCENT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CARACA 08953 281340Z

3,637-4,545 " 10 "

4,546-5,454 "	18 "
5,455-6,363 "	28 "
6,364-7,272 " 40 "	
7,273-8,181 "	55.5 "

2. THIS WOULD IMPLY THAT HEAVIER AIRCRAFT IMPORTED FOR PRIVATE USE ARE CHARGED THE FULL 70 DUTY. SPOKESMEN IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THE MINISTRY STAFF WAS NOT CONSULTED WHEN THE TABLE WAS ESTABLISHED, AND THAT THEY ARE NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH MAXIMUM TAKE-OFF WEIGHTS AS CRITERIA NOR WITH THE ARBITRARY BREAKDOWN OF THE TABLE. ACCORDING TO THESE SPOKESMEN, THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS WAS PRESENTED WITH THE DRAFT OF THE RESOLUTION DURING A CABINET MEETING AND SIGNED WITHOUT CONSULTING HIS TECHNICAL STAFF.

3. COMMENT: IT IS THEREFORE RATHER LIKELY THAT FURTHER MODIFICATIONS WILL BE MADE. THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS IS APPARENTLY FAVORING A SYSTEM BY WHICH THE AIRCRAFT LISTED UNDER (A) WILL BE CHARGED NO DUTY, THOSE USED FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES A NOMINAL ONE, AND THE AIRCRAFT PURCHASED FOR PURE PLEASURE A HIGHER ONE, BUT CERTAINLY NOT EXCEEDING 25 PERCENT. THEY ADMIT, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WILL PROBABLY NOT ACHIEVE THIS GOAL SINCE THE MINISTER OF FINANCE APPEARS TO BE ADAMANT IN WANTING TO CHARGE EXTREMELY HIGH DUTIES FOR WHAT HE HAS TERMED LUXURIES.

SHLAUDEMANN

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